documents as relates to the appointment of a commission to ettle all private claims upon the United States, and the appointment of a solicitor to represent the Government beore such commission, be referred to the Committee on the

Mr. STANTON, of Tennessee, moved to amend the res lutions by inserting among the subjects referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs the following:

"And so much of the report of the Secretary of the Navy as refers to the establishment of a line of steamers from the western coast of the United States to China."

After some debate, mainly as to the propriety of referring this subject in connexion with the President's message, the

SLAVERY AND THE FUGITIVE SLAVE LAW. Mr. GIDDINGS moved to amend the resolutions by

serting therein the following:

Resolved, That so much of the said message and accompany documents as relates to our domestic policy be referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. GIDBINGS then addressed the House an hour on

subjects embraced in the annual message of the President of the United States, expressing his concurrence in some of the views of the President, and his non-concurrence in others. He said that he admired the candor and frankness of the Ex-He said that he admired the candor and frankness of the Executive; for, in all his positions, so far as laid down, they
were such as all men could understand. There was no uncertainty in any portion of the message. That portion of it
which refers to our domestic policy he thought was the most
interesting. He specially invited attention to the sentiments
of the President on the veto power, in relation to which he
thought the President had repudiated the doctrine of the party

which elected him.

Mr. G. also called attention to that portion of the message which declared that the Executive would see that the laws were faithfully executed. This remark had not been made for the last twenty-five years. And why was it made now for the last twenty-five years. And why was it made now It was at this time put forth for some purpose, and that purpose was well understood by the House as relating to the fugitive slave bill. He considered this part of the message as a menace that the people of the North should submit to the conditions of this law, or the President would command the military force of the country to enforce its execution. The remark was unworthy of that dignitary, and there was no occa-

Mr. G. took occasion to say that this law could not be en forced, not even by bayonets, swords, or cannon. It was due, he said, to the world that it should be known and understood distinctly that the fugitive slave law, in all its provisions, never has been, never will be, nor never can be enforced. And he meant what he said. This law, in his view, commanded the men of the North to leave their workshops and their houses to give chase to the fugitive, so that he might be captured and returned into bondage; and those who should aid in these proceedings he regarded as worse than murderers. Mr. G. continued his remarks during his alotted hour in

unqualified denunciation of the fugitive slave law in all its essential points. He admitted in the course of his remarks that Congress had no authority whatever over slavery in the States, and therefore could not constitutionally abolish the institution in the States. When he concluded—

institution in the States. When he concluded—
Mr. BEOWN, of Indiana, said that they had a short se sion before them and much business to transact, and if at this time they were to go into a long debate, no one could tell when it would end. He therefore moved that the committee rise, to enable him to offer a resolution to terminate the debate on this subject.

The motion was agreed to, and the committee accordingly

mr. BROWN then offered the usual resolution, to close the debate on this subject in five minutes after the House should again go into committee; which was amended, on motion of Mr. Hibkahn, so as to restrict the debate to one mi-nute. The resolution as amended was then agreed to. Mr. MEADE offered the following resolution, which was

sgreed to:

Resolved, That the memorials and petitions referred to the several committees of the last session, and not acted on, be re-ferred again to the same committees respectively.

The House then again went into Committee. The question being on agreeing to the amendment of Mr

Mr. WENTWORTH spoke in favor of restricting all de

bate at this session, and for proceeding at once to the public business. He said that he was for taking up the harbor and river bill immediately, and then proceeding to the cheap post-age bill. He believed that both could and should be passed this week, and that then they should proceed to other nec Mr. McCLERNAND desired to reply to the remarks

the gentleman from Ohio. He did not expect to follow that gentleman in his argument, but desired to repudiate the sentiments accribed to the North. He was a citizen of a free State, and he denied, for himself, for those he represented, and for the whole State of Illinois, the revolutionary, sedi-tions, and he might say treasonable views of the gentleman from Ohio, as expressed to-day. The gentleman objected to the fugitive slave law, and upon what ground? He (Mr. G) objected to its operation as inhuman. This objection might be made to the constitution itself; for this law was in execution of the constitution. According to his conceptions of his obligations as a member of that body, he felt himself called upon to vote for this law, to give effect to the constitution. It a fraud upon the constitution, a fraud upon honesty, for men to profess to adhere to the constitution, and at the same time to object to a law in execution of the constitution. There would have been no occasion for the law but for the conduct of these who held the same opinions as the gentleman from Ohio. The law of 1793, if it had been fairly and honestly enforced, would have accomplished the object of the late law. It was owing to the conduct of those opposed to the constitution that the necessity arose which gave birth to the fugicive slave act. Was the gentleman from Ohio any better than our revolutionary forefathers who formed the constitution It was an historical fact, known to members, that the consti tution could not have been adopted but for this clause for the protection of slave property. The set of 1793 was signed by Washington. Was the gentleman from Ohio purer, more benevolent, more patriotic than the Father of his Coun-The act of 1793 was voted for by the framers of our constitution, and by men ranking among the wisest and best ever known in any age or any country. They did not con-sider that they were outraging human nature in sustaining this law; they thought they were acting in good faith. In the course of time voluntary associations were organized, negroes seduced from their owners, and the execution of the law of 1793 forcibly resisted. The present Congress, at its last session, actuated by a sense of justice, passed the fugi-tive slave act. Patriotic men at the North would heed the injunctions of this act, and would give it effect, not only by their voice, but by their strong arms. They would give it effect by the army, the navy, and the militia, if necessary. This was an issue of the supremacy of the constitution and the surbority of the Government; it was an issue of the sub-ordination of the citizen to the laws of the country.

The question was then taken on the amendment Ginnings, and it was rejec ed. Mr. McLANE, of Maryland, moved to amend the seventh

resolution by inserting before the word "harbors" the words "rivers and." Some debate ensued between Messrs. McLANE, BAYLY, HOUSTON, and ROBINSON, when the amendment was

agreed to : Ayes 84, noes 45. On motion of Mr. VINTON, what relate to "rivers" was stricken out of the ninth resolution, to make it conform to

the smendment just adopted.

Mr. HOUSTON moved to amend the resolutions by adding thereto the following :

Resolved, That so much of said message and accom documents as relates to the health, comfort, and safety of the city of Washington, and the security of the public buildings and records, be referred to the Committee on Public Buildings

Mr. HOUSTON submitted a few remarks, and then amendment was agreed to. The resolutions as amended were then agreed to.

And the Committee rose and reported their action to House : and

Mr. BAYLY having moved the previous question, the solutions were agreed to by the House.

SHIP FOR THE WORLD'S CONVENTION.

Mr. SCHENCK asked the unanimous consent of the House to offer the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Committee of Ways and Means be in structed to inquire and ascertain the necessary expense there-for, and to report forthwith a bill appropriating an amount of money sufficient to enable the President of the United States to fit out the ship-of-the-line Pennsylvania, and to send her to England, to convey thither, under such regulations as he shall prescribe, the works of art and productions of the United States intended by citizens of this Government to be exhibited at the "World's Fair," which is to assemble in London in May next.

Objection was made.

Mr. SCHENCK moved to suspend the rules.
Mr. RICHARDSON moved that the House adjourn which motion was negatived.

The question was then taken on the motion of Mr. Schenek

to suspend the rules, and it was not agreed to-two-thirds not voting therefor.

And then the House adjourned.

Tuesday, December 10, 1850.

IN SENATE. Mr. Dowss, of Louisians, and Mr. Foors, of Mississippi

appeared in their seats. SALARIES OF JUDGES IN CALIFORNIA. Mr. GWIN submitted the following resolution, which considered:

Resolved. That the Committee on the Judiciary be instructed.

ed to inquire into the expediency of increasing the salaries of the United States district judges for the northern and southern districts of California. Mr. HALE. I move to amend the resolution so as to in-

truct the committee to inquire into the expediency of increas-

assion to ing the selary of the district judge of the district of New

ing the salary of the district judge of the district of New Hampshire, which is lower than that of any other judge in the United States, and sltogether inadequate to his support.

Mr. GWIN. I believe the President has had no difficulty in filling the judgeship in New Hampshire. There are plenty of gentlemen willing to accept that station; but it is notorious that the President has appointed judges for California who have not accepted on account of the salary. Three months have elapsed since the passage of the bill creating judicial distincts in California, and yet we have had no judges.

have elapsed since the passage of the bill creating judicial districts in California, and yet we have had no judges.

Mr. HALE. I hope the Senator from California does not understand me as being hostile to his resolution. I am in favor of it, but I have been trying for several years to get the salary of the district judge of New Hampshire increased so that he shall not have to act as referee in private causes in order to support himself. His salary is only a thousand dollars per annum. I wish to provide for both California and New Hampshire.

The amendment was adopted, and the resolution as ame ed was agreed to.

PRIVATE BILL. The Senate proceeded, as in Committee of the Whole, to the consideration of the bill for the retief of the legal representatives of John Rice Jones, decessed.

Mr. SHIELDS called for the reading of the report of the

The Secretary read it accordingly. It embodied several reports of committees made in Congress on the same subject

Some discussion took place on the validity of this claim. and en the propriety of restricting its location to the State of Illinois, in the course of which— Mr. MANGUM. If this claim is valid, I think it is but

Mr. MANGUM. If this claim is valid, I think it is but just and right that the claimants should be allowed to locate wherever there are public lands. As I understand that the persons who are interested in this bill, and whose claim has been so long delayed, reside in different States, I think it fair and reasonable that they should be permitted to make their location at points most convenient for themselves, and upon that ground I shall vote against the amendment.

Mr. CASS. On looking at the report I find that this claim was for a grant made within the country of St. Chief.

claim was for a grant made within the county of St. Clair, and was signed by Gen. St. Clair, and countersigned by Gen. William Henry Harrison, in February 1799, more than fifty years ago. There was then no Illinois nor Indiana nor Wisconsin; these were all embraced in the Northwest Territory.

Mr. Ga!latin decided that the grant was not a good one, but the Supreme Court of Illinois overruled that decision, and decided that it was good. If the view then taken was correct, the claim should now be allowed. Why should it be restricted to the State of Illinois any more than to the county of St. Clair, where the grant was first made?

The question was then taken on the smendmans and it.

The question was then taken on the amendment, and it was not agreed to.

The bill was then reported to the Senate without amend ment, and ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

SCHOOL LANDS IN ARKANSAS. On motion by Mr. BORLAND, the Senate then proceeded to consider, as in Committee of the Whole, Senate bill No. 12, being the bill allowing exchanges of and granting addi-12, being the bill allowing exchanges of and granting additional school lands in the State of Arkansas.

A substitute for the entire bill, which had been reported from the Committee on the Public Lands, was adopted for the original bill, after a brief explanation by Mr. B.

The bill as amended was then reported to the Senate, and after undergoing some verbal amendment, the amendment of

the committee was concurred in, and the bill was ordered

be engrossed for a third reading.

The title was also amended so as to read "a bill allowing exchanges of, and granting additional school lands in the several States which contain public lands, and for other pur-EXECUTIVE BUSINESS.

On the motion of Mr. MANGUM, the Senate then pro

ceeded to the consideration of Executive business, and, after

some time spent therein, the doors were re-opened, and the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The Journal of yesterday having been read—
Mr. BOWLIN said that he rose to present the certificate
of election and the credentials of Wm. S. Messenver, from
the Territory of New Mexico, and in presenting them he begged leave to occupy two or three minutes in calling the attention of the House to the points in this case. He proposed to refer the papers to the Committee on Territories, that they might be laid before that committee for examination, until the assent of Texas to the compromise line shall have been officially communicated. After that, he took it that it would be a matter addressed to the sound sense and discretion of the House to admit the Delegate to a seat upon

the floor or not.

Mr. Messerver brought a certificate of his election as Dele gate from the Governor of New Mexico, and also one from Col. Munroe, military governor of the United States of the Territory of New Mexico, certifying to his election, and a proclamation calling upon the people of New Mexico to elect a delegate to represent them in Congress. These were the whelming majority of the population of New Mexico, which Territory had no representation upon the floor of the House. As a Delegate he would have no vote, but would be an agent to represent the wish of the people. This gentleman came here accordited by five thousand out of eight thousand votes cast at the election.

Mr. B. moved to refer the credentials, &c. to the Commi tee on the Territories; which motion was agreed to. BILLS INTRODUCED.

The following bills, of which previous notice had been given, were introduced by unanimous consent, read twice, and appropriately referred: By Mr. STRONG : A bill to prescribe the mode of ob

taining evidence in cases of contested elections.

By Mr. TAYLOR: A bill to grant certain public lands in the State of Ohio to that State to aid in the construction of certain railreads therein named.

By Mr. WENTWORTH: A bill to amend the act of 4th

of September, 1841, granting pre-emption rights to actual settlers and to extend the time of payment therefor.

By Mr. HALL: A bill granting to the State of Missouri the right of way and a portion of the public lands to aid in the construction of a railroad from Hannibal to St Joseph in

By Mr. CHANDLER: A bill for the encouragement of dramatic literature by securing to the authors the sole right of By Mr. PEASLEE: A bill for the relief of Isaac Hill

By Mr. HARRIS, of Illinois : A bill providing for reciprocity of trade between the United States and Canada, and for the free navigation by American vessels of the canals and waters of Canada connecting the Upper Lakes with the Atlantic ocean.

By Mr. SIBLEY: A bill for the punishment of crime

and offences committed in the Indian country within the limits of Minnesota Territory, and for the promoting the civilization of the Indian race therein.

By Mr. HAMPION: A bill granting a portion of the public lands to the State of Pennsylvania for the purpose of aiding in the construction of the Pennsylvania railroad, the Pittsburgh and Connelsville railroad, and the Ohio and Pennsylvania railroad.

BOUNTY LANDS TO SOLDIERS.

Mr. CALDWELL, of Kentucky, asked the unanimous consent of the House to introduce, in pursuance of previous notice, a joint resolution explanatory of the act granting bounty lands to certain officers and soldiers who were engaged in the military service of the United States, approved September 28th, 1850. Mr. CONGER objecting, the joint resolution was no

RIVER AND HARBOR BILL. Mr. WENTWORTH asked the unanimous consent of th

House to introduce the following resolution: House to introduce the following resolution:

Resolved, That House bill No. 348, being "a bill making appropriations for the improvement of certain harbors and rivers," and No. 351, being "a bill to reduce and modify the rates of postage in the United States," be made the special order of the day, in the order in which they are named, for Wednesday, the 11th instant, and continue the special order from day to day until disposed of.

Objection was made, and the resolution was not received. Mr. WENTWORTH then moved that the House resolve itself into Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union with a view of taking up the river and harbor bill.

Mr. JONES demanded the yeas and nays on this motion which were ordered; and, being taken, were as follows: which were ordered; and, being taken, were as follows:
YEAS—Messrs Albertson, Alexander, Allen, Ashmun,
Bingham, Bissell, Bokee, Booth, Bowlin, Brooks, Buel,
Butler, Joseph Cable, Cambell, Casey, Chandler, Clarke,
Cole, Conger, Corwin, Crowell, Disney, Dixon, Duer, Duncan, Durkee, Eliot, Alexander Evans, Nathan Fvans, Fitch,
Fowler, Gentry, Giddings, Gilbert, Gott, Gould, Grinnell,
Halloway, Hampton, Harlan, Hay, Haymond, Hebard, Henry, Hillisrd, Holmes, Houston, Hunter, Andrew Johnson,
Robert W. Johnson, Julian, George G. King, James G. King,
John A. King, Preston King, Leffler, Marshall, Matteson,
McDonald, McGaughey, Moore, Morris, Morton, Nelson,
Newell, Ogle, Olds, Otis, Outlaw, Phonix, Putnam, Reed,
Reynolds, Richardson, Risley, Rockwell, Root, Rurasey,
Sackett, Sawtelle, Sehenek, Schermerhorn, Schooleraft, Shepperd, Sprague, Stanly, Frederick P. Stanton, Taylor, Thurman, Underhill, Vinton, Walden, Watkins, Wentworth,
White, Whittlesey, and Wright—97.
NAYS—Messrs. Alston, Anderson, Ashe, Averett, Bayly,
Boeoek, A. G. Brown, Burt, G. A. Caldwell, J. P. Caldwell,

NAYS—Messrs. Alston, Anderson, Ashe, Averett, Bayly, Bocock, A. G. Brown, Burt, G. A. Caldwell, J. P. Caldwell, Garter, Cleveland, Clingman, W. R. W. Cobb, Colcock, Daniel, Danner, Deberry, Dickey, Dimmick, Dunham, Edmunson, Ewing Featherston, Freedley, Gerry, Green, Hall, Haralson, L. G. Harris, S. W. Harris, T. L. Harris, Hibbard, Hoagland, Holladay, Howe, Hubbard, Inge, Joseph W. Jackson, Jones, Kaufman, Kerr, Job Mann, McDowell, McLanahan, McMullen, Meade, Millson, Morrison, Morse, Orr, Parker, Peaslee, Pitman, Powell, Robbins, Ross, Savage,

Mr. POTTER said that he proposed now to move to lay aside the first bill in order, so as to take up the bill to reduce

and modify the rates of postage.

The committee then proceeded to take in their order the bills on the calendar preceding the bill to reduce and modify the rates of postage in the United States, each of which they set aside with a view to come to the postage bill, during which time many motions that the committee rise were made, and negatived; but before coming to the postage bill—

The committee rose and reported progress.

And the House adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1850.

IN SENATE.

Mr. HALE. I have received, and been requested to present to the Senate, a petition signed by a number of citizens of Portsmouth, New Hampshire, and adjacent towns in that State, in which they represent that due regard to the honor and interests of our country, and to the security of the personal rights of all persons now enlisted, or who may hereafter enlist in the service of the United States, require that the acts of Congress establishing rules and regulations for the acts of Congress establishing rules and regulations for the government of the army of the United States need revision and amendment. They represent that many punishments provided by law are disproportioned to the offences, and that large disbursements from the public treasury are and that large disbursements from the public treasury are and that large disbursements from the public treasury are and that large disbursements from the public treasury are defence—to give arms for their defence to all parts. To be defence—to give arms for their defence to all parts. To be vision and amendment. They represent that many punishments provided by law are disproportioned to the offences, and that large disbursements from the public treasury are made to defray the expenses of courts-martial holden for the trial of petty misdemeanors. They further state that it has recently been made known to them that courts martial in the distribution of the courts martial in the cou trial of petty misdemeanors. They turner state the fict upon privates in the army punishments so severe and cruel as to outrage the feelings of humanity. They state that the law which authorized the infliction of corporeal punishment, except in case of desertion, by stripes and lashes, has been repealed, but certain courts-martial evade the intention of the repealing act by punishing corporeally with heavy instruments of torture far more intolerable than the lash. They declare that it cannot be believed that in the nineteenth century the degradation of the man can have a tendency to century the degradation of the man can have a tendency to the Atlantic seaboard, while the half of the whole ought to go to the West. I find in the estimates of apppropriation the navy abolishing inhuman punishments, defining more specifically the duties of commanding officers as well as pri-vates, and the authority and duties of courts-martial, and of subjecting their decisions, in time of peace at least, to the

supervision of the judicial tribunals of the United States.

I will state that this petition had its origin in the procesings of a court-martial, recently holden at Portsmouth, N Hampshire, at which the sentence of the court was so severe as to excite in the community feelings of indignation. I will read that sentence. It was that this private soldier should "forfeit all pay and allowance, except such clothing as may be necessary for one year, to wear a twenty-four pound ball and chain attached to his leg, a band of iron about his neck containing seven prongs, each prong seven inches long, to be confined in charge of a guard at hard labor during the day, and solitary confinement at night, for the same period

Mr. CASS. What was the offence? Mr. HALE. The charge was mutiny and disobedience of orders. The evidence is very brief, and will be found in the report which has been submitted to the Senate, agreeably to a resolution passed a few days since. I move that the me-morial and that report be referred to the Committee on Mili-tary Affairs, and that the report be printed for the use of the

sentence which was read by the Senator from New Mamp-shire, he is quite aware, was not executed. The charge which was preferred is one so grave was in most countries it would have rubjected the offender to the sentence of death. Without knowing the circumstances, and the condition of the carrison, and the necessity for resorting to this extreme punishment to impress on that garrison the necessity of obedience to orders, and to preserve its efficiency as such, those persons have sent the petition which the Senator has presented, and he gravely asks for the printing of the record before the committee have had an opportunity to examine and inquire whether the interests of the service would be subserved there-

by or not. I think it the duty of the Senate to look to the interests of the service, and to the character of the officers, and not to answer to every false sentiment that may instigate persons as ignorant as meddlesome, to send petitions here. I am sorry, herefore, that the Senator did not accept the suggestion made by me to refer the whole matter to the committee, and allow it to be examined by them; and then let the Senate determine whether the record shall be printed or not; and, if printed, whether it should be printed with or without the report which the committee may think proper to make. I have not seen the record, and I am not prepared to form an opinion now; bu', upon an examination, I will make the soundest decision I am capable of as to the propriety of printing it, and whether it is proper for the committee to submit a report to go

forth with it or not. The PRESIDENT. The Chair would inform the Senaor that the motion to print must go to the Committee

Mr. HALE. I hope, sir, I shall live to see an exhibition, it some day, of "true" philanthropy; because every effort nade since I have been here, let it be for what it would, has peen stigmatized by those opposed to it as "false" philan-thropy. Now, I believe, if there be within the limits of this ic one solitary class of individuals who have a right to look to this Government for protection against oppres-sion, particularly when that oppression comes from an officer of this Government, it is the private soldier and private sailor. There is no other earthly power to which they can look but to Congress.

The Senator from Mississippi suggested to me, it is true,

to let the subject go to the Committee on Military Affairs be-tore the motion to print was made. I received the sugges-tion; but, as it did not accord with my own convictions of what was right and proper, with all due deference to that Senator, I declined to accede to it. The honorable Senator asserts that I know that the sentence was not executed. I do not know a great deal about it; but I unders and that it was executed in part; that it was approved by the officer who ordered the court martial to be called, and was in process of execution when the superior officer, Major General Scott, had his eye fixed on the sentence, and then, by his order, or by his suggestion, that part which related to the wearing of this necklace with seven prongs seven inches in length was remitted. But the sentence was executed in part. I do not ask to have any extra numbers printed to go out to the country; but, for the purpose of enabling Senators to inform themselves of the particulars of the case, I ask that it may be printed for the use of the Senate.

WESTERN ARMORY.

Mr. BENTON, in pursuance of previous notice, asked and obtained leave to bring in a bill of the following title:

A bill to authorize the President to select a site for a Western armory, and to procure the same, and to commence the on struction of the armory.

In introducing this bill Mr. BENTON said : I am not on

the committee to which I shall ask to have this bill refere Mr. President, and I will therefore state in brief the object of the bil', and the reasons why the bill before us leaves to the President of the United States to select a site for a Western armory, and to make purchase of the site and commence the erection of the necessary buildings thereon. The reason for giving the power to make the selection to the President of the United States is because it has been found impossible to get any site agreed upon by a vote of Congress. It is now nearly forty years—ever since the conclusion of the war of 1812 with Great Britain—that a Western armory has been 1812 with Great Britain—that a Western armory has been considered a great Western object. It has now grown up to be a national object. A most laudable effort was made to get a vote of Congress by which the armory should be established. Col. Johnson, lately deceased, and who, if he had died at almost any time for forty years past, would have been entitled to a kind and respectful notice in this chamber—he gave us twenty or thirty years exertions for the establishment of this armory. Volumes of reports were made upon the subject by officers and commissioners sent out to examine a great many places; and the bill authorizes the President to make further examinations if he sees fit. All water sites in the Great West have been examined before the invention of steam power came into general use as a motive power. Many places have been recommended. All these recommendations

of the United States, and when the capital of Arkansas was a frontier; even then it was deemed a great object to have an armory in the West. Now, sir, all these places are becoming inland towns. They are mere starting points to the frontiers. Our northern frontier is up above the Falls of St. Anthony, and actual settlements—even two States and two Territories on the Mississippi—are above what was then the frontier of the Sajes. We have to supply all the country up to the base of the Rocky Mountains, over which we are now spreading military posts, down to the Pacific ocean, to California, to Oregon, to Utab, all New Mexico and the western parts of Texas, which belong still to the West. Here now we have a world thrown open beyond what was the frontier forty years ago, all of which not only needs arms, but presents now the largest demands for arms. What was, almost sents now the largest demands for arms. What was, almost forty years ago, a Western object, is now a National object, for the United States must supply arms to this vast frontier, which has been so much extended within our time. The distribution of the army is now beyond, far beyond, what was the frontier in the war of 1812.

We have two armories at present, as we all know—one in Virginia, and one in Massachusetts. They were established upon a principle that would have given one to the West, if there had been any West at the time. But there was no

defence—to give arms for their defence to all parts. To be sure, we have arms sent to the West now, but they are in

this year the following:
For the armament of fortifications......\$200,000 For repairs and improvements, and new machinery at Harper's Ferry.

For repairs and improvements, and new machinery at Springfield armory.

Making in all a total of 830,100 ill to be expended this year, as has been years heretofore and will be to all time, upon the armories upon the Atlantic board, to make arms for the Western frontier, and then transported at great cost to the West-for that West where we have all the materials, the iron, the wood, and the coal, and the transportation by rivers, and many convenient sites for

steam-power as well as water.

With these remarks, I ask leave to introduce this bill, which I sek to be referred to the Committee on Military The bill was read the first and second time, and referred to

the Committee on Military Affairs. The remainder of this day in the Senate, and the whole of proclamation calling upon the people of New Mexico to elect a delegate to represent them in Congress. These were the papers which he now presented for reference to the Committee on the Territoiles, that they might be brought to reflect philanthropy which is abroad in the country, and which is so Wayne on the 19th November last

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1850.

IN SENATE. Mr. WINTHROP. I have in my hand a memorial Mrs. Martha Gray, of Boston, the widow of Capt. Robert Gray, the discoverer of the Columbia river. Capt. Robert Gray was in the naval service of the country during a part of the Revolutionary war. Being afterwards employed in the merchant service, he made a voyage, between the years 1787 and 1790, in the sloop Washington, and was the first to carry the flag of our Union at the masthead of a vessel bearing that august name in triumph round the world. In a subsequen voyage, in the year 1792, he discovered and entered the Columbia river, and gave to it the name of the ship which he

The memorial is accompanied by some very interesting papers. Here is the original sea-letter, signed by George Washington, and attested by Thomas Jefferson, under which the Columbia sailed from Boston in 1790. Here is a similar paper, bearing the seal of the Commonwealth of Massachuetts, and the signature of John Hancock, its then Governor Here is the clearance certificate from the Beston custom house, signed by Benjamin Lincoln, then collecter of the port but whose name is more familiar to history in , is connexio with more than one of our great Revolutionary thattlefields both at the North and at the South. It seems a fit and strik ing coincidence that so many of the foremost mon of our Republic should have been thus associated in authenticating the ational character of the vessel and the voyage which were to

chieve so important a discovery.

Here, too, are the original instructions of Joseph Barrell he owner of the Columbia, and one of the most emine nerchants of that day, showing the objects with which the

The voyage was merely mercantile in its design, but it te minated, as is well known, in securing to this country the first and best element in its title to a vast territory on the Pacific. In the protracted controversy between Great Britain and the United States, which was so happily brought to a close of few years since, no point was more successfully relied on b our American negotiators than the discovery of the Columb iver by Capt. Gray. It is not too much to say that that dis

covery gave us Oregon.

Capt. Gray did not live to see his country reap the frui of his adventure and enterprise, much less to taste any of them him-elf. He died in 1806, leaving a widow and four children, and very little property.

Mrs. Gray and her daughters, only one of whom has been

married, have since supported themselves mainly by their own exertions and economy, the widow having never even enjoyed the benefit of a pension for her husband's Revolutionary services, owing in part to the date of her marriage, and in part to some technical defect in the evidence. She now calls upon Congress to cheer her old age by making such a grant to herself and daughters as shall be "in accordance with the liberal spirit in which it may be proper that a great and magnanimous Government should regard the circumstances of the widow and children of a citizen whose nautical skill and bold enterprise have been instrumental in rendering so distinguish

A similar petition in behalf of this venerable lady was pre-sented to the other House of Congress a few years since. It was referred to the Committee of Revolutionary Pensions, who was reserved to the Committee of the Revolutionary Pensions, who reported in favor of giving Mrs. Gray an immediate pension of five hundred dollars per annum during the remainder of her life; and recommended further, that whenever the disputed question of boundary should be settled, when surveys should have been made, and a territorial government organized, a township of land in Oregon should be granted to her and her children. This report was never acted upon, and Congress has never in any way recognised the meritorious services of Capt. Gray. It seems to me that a grant of land in the Territory to which Capt. Gray's discovery furnished the very corner-stone of the American title, would be an eminently appropriate tribute to his memory, and that it would approve itself to the general sense of Congress and the country. With this view I present the memorial, and move that it be referred to the Committee on Public Lands.

The memorial was so referred. MILITARY PUNISHMENTS.

Mr. BORLAND, from the Committee on Printing, to which was referred the motion to print the report of the Secretary of War, communicating the proceedings of a court-martial in the case of William Hanniver, reported in favor

of printing the same.

Mr. DAVIS, of Mississippi. I stated to the Senate yesterday that I hoped the motion to print would lie upon the table until the Committee on Military Affairs shall be able to report upon the matter. I therefore move to lay the report upon the table.

Seddon, Richard H. Stanton, Thaddeus Stevent, Strong, a Sevence, Thomas, Jacob Thompson, Waldo, Wallace, Wellborn, Wildrick, Williams, Willians, and Young—72.

So the motion was agreed to.
And thereupon the House went into Committee of the Western Santon, if it was in the Senate, deemed it his duty to move the day to make the chair.)

The CHAIRMAN stated that the first business in order was the built or grant the right of way to the Tennessee, Missispi, and Alabams relitived.

Mr. WENTWORTH said that at the last session the House decided that the bill making appropriations for the improvement of Antors and rivers was a general appropriation bill. He interfere now moved that the committee take up the sill or educe and modify the rates of postage.

The WENTWORTH said that they could take up that bill to reduce and modify the rates of postage in the United States. But during a done pure so of the United States to the Committee of the West, and there were the delicit or educe and modify the rates of postage in the United States. But during a done pure so the bill or reduce and modify the rates of postage in the United States. But during a done pure so the bill to reduce and modify the rates of postage.

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Mr. POTTER said that he proposed now to move to lay the proposed of the court was the motion of Mr. Western S

officer whose duty it was to carry into execution the sentence. The whole object of my motion was, that the committee having charge of such subjects should look into the record; and
when they report, it will be equally in the power of the Senate, as it is now, to print or not to print the record. I see
no necessity for such hot haste. The scoffing manner in
which the Senator speaks of the "enlightened humanity" of the Committee on Military Affairs partook somewhat of the same temper in which he spoke yesterday. I have to tell him now that I have none of that sort of "humanity" which prompts men first to incite soldiers to violate their duty, and then to come with whiskey in one hand and tears dropping then to come with whiskey in one hand and tears dropping from their eyes, to prompt insubordination in the garrison, and afterwards to interfere with that punishment which strict discipline may require. It is a very poor "humanity," in-deed, which draws a man from his duty and then incites him deed, which draws a man from his duty and their incites mut-to mutiny, and finally interferes with the just proceedings of a court martial. If the proceedings of this court martial have been unjust—which I do not pretend to say—I think the Mi-liury Committee can give a much better opinion after exmining the record than the Senate can without examining it Mr. EWING. As the motion te lay upon the table i

withdrawn, I wish to say a word explanatory of the vote which I shall give. I shall vote for laying the report of the Committee on Printing upon the table, not because I do not want this record printed, but because I want the report of the committee with it. I intend to read it once; and when I read it, I want to read it with the explanation of the committee. renew the motion to lay the report upon the table.

The motion was agreed to.

PENSIONS TO CREEK INDIANS. Mr. BELL, in pursuance of notice, asked and obtained leave to introduce a bill granting invalid and half-pay pensions in the cases of certain Creek Indian volunteers in the military service of the United States; which was read a first

time by its title and ordered to a second reading.

Mr. BELL. I would state to the Senate that the which I have introduced was acted upon favorably by the Committee on Indian Affairs at the last session. That committee direct d me to report it, but at so late a period of the session that I did not do it; and I am apprehensive now that if this bill takes the usual course, it will not be acted upon if this bill takes the usual course, it will not be acted upon during the present session of Congress. The obligation on the part of the Government for which it provides was incurred some thirteen or fourteen years ago, in 1836-'7, during the Florida war. The regiment of Creek warriors who engaged in the service of the United States in that war went on the express promise of Gen. Jesup, that, if they would volunteer, they should be placed upon the same footing in regard to pensions as the white volunteers of the United States. It is in compliance with this promise that this claim has been made. It has been repeatedly made before. Various reports have been made upon the subject. A report of Gen. Jesup have been made upon the subject. A report of Gen. Jesup has been before the Senate, in answer to a call made by the body, stating explicitly that he made this promise; and I have body, stating explicitly that he made this promise; and I have in my hand the report of the paymaster or proper officer of the regiment, detailing the names of the Indians who would be entitled to pensions under this promise of Gen. Jesup. Nearly fourteen years have elapsed since these services were performed, and the Government have done nothing towards accomplishing the obligation which they incurred to this regiment of Creek Indians. It is time that the obligation should be discharged, and I hope the Senate will let this bill pass now by unanimous consent and not sphice; it to the redeling

now by unanimous consent, and not subject it to the ordeal of being placed upon the calendar, there to take its chance.

The bill was then read a second time by unanimous consent, and considered as in Committee of the Whole, and no amendment having been proposed, it was reported to the Se-

Mr. YULEE. There is only one objection which occurs to me against this bill, and perhaps it is one which the Sena-tor can explain. I was under the impression that this corps of Indians went into the service with an understanding that they should receive as a reward for their services, in addition to their pay, all the booty or plunder which they took. I have also understood that they did take a large amount of plunder, for which they received a compensation. If that be the case, I cannot conceive the propriety or equity of making this ap-propriation, and putting these Indian volunteers on the foot-

ing of regular soldiers.

Mr. BELL. In regard to that question, I do not remem what stipulations were made. But I remember that in some instances a question arose as to the rights of certain Creek warriors who captured property in this war; but I do not consider that it has any necessary connexion with the proposition now before the Senate, because the claims which are presented now are from the heirs of the Indians who were killed in that service, and from those who were disabled by wounds which they received while in the service. According to the provisions of standing laws volunteers in the service of the United States, under the act of 1836, received certain pensions when they were disabled, and their heirs, in case of their death while in the service. Equity would require that Indian volunteers engaged in our service should be entitled to receive the same pensions as white volunteers; but, in addition to that, there was an express stipulation before they volunteered and entered the service that if any of them wer killed their families should be entitled to the same pension that the families of white volunteers were entitled to, and those that were disabled or wounded should be entitled to the same invalid pensions as white volunteers. That was the promise made to them by Gen. Jesup, and this bill siraply proposes to carry out that contract of Gen. Jesup's. The report of Major Freeman, who commanded the regiment, to Gen. Jesup, which I hold in my hand, shows the number of Indians on the muster roll of this regiment at the time they were mustered into the service, and at the time they were hon-

orably discharged.

Mr. YULEE. If the Senator is satisfied that there was an express stipulation on the part of Gen. Jesup that this should be done, I shall not oppose the bill.

Mr. BELL. No question has ever been raised as to that point before. Gen. Jesup has been personally urgent in favor of this claim. He feels that his own personal character is involved in the failure of the Government to comply with the promise which he made to those Indians.

Mr. FELCH. I would inquire if the contract of Gen Jesup which has been spoken of is among the papers which were referred to the committee? If so, it ought to be produced, so as to enable us to see what its conditions were. But I would prefer that this matter should lie over for the presen until that can be produced. The motion was agreed to.

The Senate then proceeded to the consideration of the following resolution, submitted by Mr. Cass the 24th of De-Resolved, That the Committee on Foreign Relations be in structed to inquire into the expediency of suspending diplo-matic relations with Austria.

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH AUSTRIA.

Mr. BADGER. Will not the statute of limitations apply o that ? [Laughter.] Mr. CASS. Well, sir, I defer to the statute.

The resolution was laid upon the table.

DISPOSITION OF THE PUBLIC LANDS. The Senate then proceeded to the consideration of the following resolution, submitted by Mr. Webster the 22d Jan-

lowing resolution, submitted by Mr. Webster the 22d January last:

Resolved, That a provision ought to be made by law that every male citizen of the United States, and every male person who has declared his intention of becoming a citizen, according to the provisions of law, of twenty-one years of age or upwards, shall be entitled to enter upon and take any one quarter section of the public lands which may be left open to entry at private sale, for the purposes of residence and cultivation, and that when such citizen shall have resided on the same land for three years, and cultivated the same, or, if dying in the mean time, residence and cultivation shall be held and carried on by his widow, or his heirs or devisees, for the space of full three years from and after making entry of such land, such residence and cultivation for the said three years to be completed within four years of the time of such entry, then a patent to issue for the same to the person making such entry, if living, or otherwise to his heirs or devisees, as the case may require: Provided, nevertheless, That such person so entering and taking the quarter section, as aforesaid, shall not have, nor shall his devisees or heirs have, any power to alienate such land, nor create any title thereto, in law or equity, by deed, transfer, lease, or any other conveyance, except by devise by will.

On motion by Mr. SHIELDS,

On motion by Mr. SHIELDS,

Ordered, That it be referred to the Committee on the Pul

REMOVALS FROM OFFICE.

The Senate then took up for consideration the resolution submitted by Mr. Brandur the 24th of December last, in relation to removals from office.

A long debate ensued, which will be found in another part of this paper. The Senate then adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. GILBERT asked the unanimous consent of the House

Mr. Gilbert asked the unantmous consent of the House to introduce the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the Committee on Commerce be instructed to inquire into the expediency of improving the navigation of the Bays of San Francisco, San Pablo, and Suisun, and the rivers Sacramento and San Joaquin, in the State of California, by the construction of lighthouses, buoys, and beacons, as follows:

A lighthouse upon Angel Island, in the Bay of San Fran

A lighthouse at the Straits of San Pablo.

A lighthouse at some point upon the eastern shore of San Pablo bay, between the Straits of San Pablo and the Straits of San Pablo.

Carquinez.

A lighthouse at the southern entrance to the Straits of Car-

quinez.

A lighthouse at the mouth of Sonoma creek.

A lighthouse at the mouth of Napa creek.

A lighthouse at the northern entrance to the Straits of Car

A lighthouse at the northern entrance to the Straits of Carquinez.

A lighthouse at some point on the Bay of Suisun, between the northern entrance to the Straits of Carquinez and the mouths of the Sacramento and San Joaquin rivers.

A beacon or beacons to mark the "Middle Ground" and other dangers to navigation in the Bay of Suisun.

A lighthouse at the mouth of the Sacramento river.

A lighthouse at the mouth of the Sacramento river.

Buoys to mark Blossom and Invineible rocks and other dangers to navigation in the Bay of San Francisco.

Buoys to mark the main channel in the Bay of Suisun.

Resolved, That the Committee on Commerce be further instructed to inquire into the expediency of an appropriation for the purpose of dredging, removing bars and obstructions, and otherwise improving the navigation of the San Joaquin and Sacramento rivers.

Mr. BURT said that, as the Committee on Commerce had

Mr. BURT said that, as the Committee on Commerce had

Mr. BURT said that, as the Committee on Commerce had power to institute investigations without instructions of the House, he would object to the introduction of the resolutions. Mr. NELSON, from the Committee of Claims, to which was referred the bill of the Senate entitled "An act for the relief of the American Colonization Society," reported the same without amendment, and it was committed.

Mr. VENABLE moved that when the House adjourn it adjourn to meet on Mondey party with adjourn to meet on Monday next; which motion greed to: Yeas 23, nays 142. The House then adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1850.

The Journal of yesterday having been read— Mr. THURSTON, by unanimous consent, offered the

Resolved, That the President of the United States be requested, if not incompatible with the public interest, to com-municate to this House copies of all correspondence received from the respective Government officers in Oregon since the organization of that Territory by the General Government. Mr. ASHMUN inquired if this resolution, under the rule requiring propositions requesting information from the Presi-dent of the United States or directing it to be furnished by the Heads of the Executive Departments, did not lie over one

day under the rule?

The SPEAKER replied that, if objected to, it would have to le over one day. It required the unanimous consent of the House to receive the resolution, but that, if no objection was made, it could be considered now.

Mr. ASHMUN objected to the consideration of the resolu-

tion to-day.

Mr. JONES desired to know if it was in the recollection of the Chair, that any resolution laid over one day ever cam or the Chair, that any resolution faid over one day ever came up again? [Laughter.]

The SPEAKER replied that resolutions which laid over had been taken up by the House. They were not very apt to come up in the regular order of business, however.

After some time spent in the consideration of private bills, The House adjourned.

STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE.

From the Journal of the House of Thursday we learn that the Speaker, in pursuance of the resolution adopted on that day, has appointed the following Standing Committees, viz: Of Elections.—Messrs Strong, Sampson W. Harris, Van Dyke, Disney, John B. Thompson, Isham G. Harris,

McGaughey, Ashe, and Andrews.

Of Ways and Means.—Messrs. Bayly, Jacob Thompson,
Vinton, Green, A. H. Stephens, Hibbard, Brooks, Jones, and Hampton.

Of Claims.—Messrs. Daniel, Thomas, Root, Wilmot, Nelson, Hubbard, J. L. Johnson, Dunham, and Thomas B.

Of Commerce.-Messre. R. M. McLane, Wentworth Grinnell, Bingham, A. H. Stephens, Featherston, Phosnix, Wallace, and Jas. G. King.

On the Public Lands.—Messrs. Bowlin, Albertson, Sheppard, W. R. W. Cobb, Young, Thurman, Hoagland, Henry,

and Wright.
On the Post Office and Post Roads.—Messrs. Potter Phelps, Bokee, R. H. Stanton, Hebard, Powell, Owen, W. J. Brown, and Durkee.

On the District of Columbia.—Messrs. Inge, Taylor,

On the District of Columbia.—Messrs. Williams. Fuller, Morton, Hammond, Brown, Miss., Allen, and Underhill.

On the Judiciary.—Mesers. James Thompson, Miller, Ashmun, Meade, Breck, Preston King, Venable, Thaddeu Stevens, and Welborn.

On Revolutionary Claims.—Messrs. Sawtelle, Morris,
Newell, Bay, Kerr, Millson, Goodenow, Danner, and

Reynolds.

On Public Expenditures.—Messrs. Andrew Johnson,
Bissell, Conger, Harlan, Bowie, Sweetser, J. P. Caldwell, Booth, and Calvin.
On Private Land Claims.—Messrs Hall, Gilmore, Rum

sey, T. L. Harris, Campbell, Whittlesey, Marshall, Wright, and Anderson.

On Manufactures.—Messis. Peck, Ross, Houston, Cleveland, Orr, Hubbard, Rose, Outlaw, and Leffler.

On Agriculture.—Messis. Littlefield, Deberry, Risley, McMullen, Young, Casey, Andrew Johnson, John A. King,

and Cable. On Indian Affairs .- Messrs, R. W. Johnson, McLanahan. Crowell, Biesell, Outlaw, Joseph W. Jackson, Carke, Isham

G. Harris, and Sprague.

On Military Affairs.—Messrs. Burt, Richardson, Alex.

Evans. Geo. A. Caldwell, John A. King, Carter, Ewing, Chandler, and Matteson.

On the Militia.—Messrs. Peaslee, Savage, Geo. G. King,
Albertson, Hunter, Briggs, Robbins, Wildrick, and Hebard.

On Naval Affairs.—Messrs. Fred. P. Stanton, Boocek,

Schenck, Gerry, White, Sampson W. Harris, Cabell, Gilbert, and Levin. On Foreign Affairs. -- Messrs. McClernand, McDowell, Hilliard, Haralson, Woodward, Genry, Buel, Eliot, and

on the Territories —Messrs. Boyd, Richardson, Rockwell, Seddon, Clingman, Kaufman, Gott, Fitch, and Giddings.

On Revolutionary Pensions — Messrs. Waldo, Beale, Silvester, Wallace, Freedley, Gorman, Nathan Evans, Tuck, and On Invalid Pensions -Mesers. Leffler, Olds, Hay, Aver-

ett, Ogle, Walden, Hamilton, Duncan, and Julian.

On Roads and Canals.—Messrs. Robinson, Job Mann Jss. G. King, Mason, Putnam, Parker, Morrison, Gould, and Howe.
On Patents.—Messrs. Walden, Otis, Hamilton, Watkins

On Public Buildings and Grounds.—Messrs. Richard H. Stanton, Edmundson, Houston, William J. Brown, and Of Revisal and Unfinished Business.—Messrs. W. R. W. Cobb, Ogle, Averett, Julian, and Wm. T. Jackson.
Of Accounts.—Messrs. Mason, McDonald, Clarke, Bay, and Geo. G. King.

On Mileage. - Messrs, Fitch, Duncan, Fred. P. Stanton Haymond, and Buel. On Engraving .- Messrs. Hammond, Dimmick. and

On the Library of Congress .- Messrs. Holmes, Horac Menn, and Duer.
On Enrolled Bills.—Messrs. Wildrick and Dickey.

The following committees of last session stand over un the rule, viz:

On Expenditures in the State Department.—Messes.
Bingham, Reed, Orr, Alexander, and Gorman.

On Expenditures in the Treasury Department.—Messes.
George A. Caldwell, Schermerborn, Ashe, Dixon, and Dun-

ham.
On Expenditures in the War Department.—Messrs. Dimmick, Schoolcraft, Thos. L. Harris, McMullen, and Hunter.
On Expenditures in the Navy Department.—Messrs. Holladay, Thurman, Carter, Pitman, and I. G. Harris.
On Expenditures in the Post Office Department.—Messrs.
William Thompson, McWillie, Halloway, Robbins, and

Corwin. On Expenditures on the Public Buildings. - Messa Beale, Cole, Ross, Burrows, and Hoagland.

COMMITTEE ON BOUNTY LAND BILL. From the Journal of the same day we learn that the follow ing gentlemen constitute the committee under the resolution of Mr. Robinson, in relation to the bounty land bill:

Messrs. Robinson, Briggs, Miller, Williams, and Mason.

MOUNT SAVAGE FIRE-BRICKS.—We are daily expecting per canal boats from Cumberland a full supply of Fire Bricks of the above celebrated manufacture, and are prepared to furnish all sizes and patterns at short notice and on liberal terms.

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